USDA Export Verification (EV) Program: Specified Product Requirements for Bovine - Singapore

1 Purpose

This document provides the specified product requirements for marketing U.S. bovine meat (beef and veal) to Singapore under the USDA Export Verification (EV) Program.

2 Scope

These requirements apply to U.S. companies (slaughterers, fabricators, and processors) of bovine meat items that are eligible for export to Singapore as listed on the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) website. Companies must meet the specified product requirements for Singapore under the EV Program through an approved USDA QSA Program. The requirements for the USDA QSA Program are defined in *ARC 1002 Procedure, Quality System Assessment (QSA) Program*. The USDA QSA Program ensures that the specified product requirements are supported by a documented quality management system; and that product is identified and traceable through the system.

Only companies with an approved USDA QSA Program for the EV Program for Singapore may label and sell product as meeting the specified product requirements for Singapore under the EV Program.

3 Reference Documents

ARC 1000 Procedure, Quality Systems Verification Programs General Policies and Procedures ARC 1002 Procedure, Quality System Assessment (QSA) Program http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_&_policies/Index_of_Import_Requirements_by_Country/index.asp http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsg/arc/bevlisting.htm

4 Specified Product Requirements

- 4.1 Eligible bovine products, as listed on the FSIS website, must be derived from animals that are younger than 30 months of age.
- 4.2 Eligible products must be derived from cattle that were born, raised, and slaughtered in the U.S. or imported from countries approved by the government of Singapore.
- 4.3 Slaughter, dressing, and processing procedures must ensure hygienic removal of designated tissues comprising the skull, brain, eyes, distal ileum, tonsils, spinal cord, and vertebral column to prevent the contamination of these tissues with bovine products being produced for export to Singapore.
- 4.4 Knives, steels, and other tools, excluding carcass splitting saws, that are used to sever and remove the spinal cord must be used exclusively on carcasses of animals younger than 30 months of age.

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5 Listing of Approved Programs

Only U.S. companies that have an approved USDA QSA Program which meets the specified product requirements for Singapore will be listed on the *Official Listing of Eligible Suppliers for the USDA Bovine EV Program for Singapore*.

6 Responsibilities

U.S. companies must meet all policies and procedures outlined in this Procedure, ARC 1000 Procedure, and ARC 1002 Procedure.

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